



Plurals

Plurals are used to say we have more than one of something. The traditional rule to make a noun plural in English is to add the letter S to the end of the word. For example, *one car → two cars, one house → two houses.*

But there are some exceptions to this rule!

- If the last letters in the word are CH, SH, S, X O or Z, then we add ES to the end of the noun instead (**watch → watches**).
 - There is a special rule for words ending in O. If the final letters are consonant + O, then we add ES to the end of the word (**tomato → tomatoes**). If the final letters are vowel + O, then we add only S to the end of the word (**kangaroo → kangaroos**.)
 - If the last letter in the word is F, then we replace this with a V, then add ES to the end of the noun instead (**leaf → leaves**).
 - If the last two letters of the word are FE, then we replace this with VE, then add S to the end of the noun instead (**wife → wives**).
 - If the last two letters of the word are consonant + Y, then we eliminate the Y, then add IES to the end of the noun instead (**baby → babies**). Note that if the final two letters are vowel + Y, this follows the traditional rule where you simply add S (**boy → boys**).
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Remember to pronounce the letter S correctly

- △ If the sound before the S is unvoiced, the S is pronounced /S/
- △ If the sound before the S is voiced, the S is pronounced /Z/
- △ If the sound before the S is an exception sound, the S is pronounced /IZ/